

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 SY-05 USSS-00

A-01 OPR-02 OC-06 DHA-02 OMB-01 AID-05 INRE-00

SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 CCO-00 MCT-01 TRSE-00 IO-13 /102 W

-----011424Z 087353 /42

O P 011220Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 1322

INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KABUL PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN PRIORITY

CINCPAC PRIORITY

AMCONSUL KARACHI PRIORITY

AMCONSUL LAHORE PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 ISLAMABAD 4395

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PK, US, PINT

SUBJECT: ANTI-AMERICAN CAMPAIGN HEIGHTENS

1. THE ANTI-AMERICAN CAMPAIGN IN PAKISTAN INCREASED IN FERVOR AND VITROL YESTERDAY, CUED BY THE PRIME MINISTER'S STREET CORNER EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEECHES IN PINDI REPORTED EARLIER. HIS ACCUSATIONS HAVE BEEN PICKED UP AND PROMINENTLY PLAYED IN THE NEWSPAPERS, RADIO AND TELEVISION, AND IT GROWS INCREASINGLY OBVIOUS THAT AS LONG AS BHUTTO HEADS THE GOVERNMENT THIS WILL BE A MAJOR THEME IN PAKISTANI POLITICS IN THE WEEKS AHEAD.

2. THE PRIME MINISTER DROVE THROUGHOUT PINDI YESTERDAY, IN AN OPEN JEEP, AND ADDRESSED CROWDS AT VARIOUS STREET

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CORNERS. HE DISPLAYED LETTER FROM SECRETARY VANCE WHICH HE NOTED WAS WRITTEN IN REPLY TO PM'S APRIL 28 SPEECH, AND SAID THE SECRETARY WROTE THAT THE US WAS WILLING TO HOLD TALKS IN PRIVATE AND NOT IN PUBLIC. BHUTTO ADDED THIS MEANS THAT "WE SHOULD NOT TAKE THE NATION INTO CONFIDENCE". HE STATED THAT HE WILL SEND A REPLY TO THE LETTER BECAUSE "I DO NOT WANT TO SPOIL PAKISTAN'S RELATIONS WITH THE

WORLD". HE NOTED THAT IN HIS REPLY TO THE SECRETARY HE WOULD SAY HE IS WILLING TO TALK IN PRIVATE BUT HE COULD NOT STOP THE NATION AND PARTY FROM SAYING ANYTHING. IN SAME VEIN, HE NOTED THAT "WHETHER THE TALKS ARE HELD IN PRIVATE OR OTHERWISE, WE WOULD STICK TO OUR PRINCIPLES AND WOULD NOT COMPROMISE THEM".

3. PM ALSO CONTENDED THAT "IF THERE IS INTERFERENCE FROM OUTSIDE IN OUR INTERNAL AFFAIRS, IT WILL NOT BE TOLERATED". PM WENT ON TO SAY THAT HE GAVE HIS APRIL 28 SPEECH IN ENGLISH SO THAT FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS COULD DESPATCH THEIR REPORT TO "THE WESTERN WORLD AND WASHINGTON WITHOUT ANY LOSS OF TIME". BHUTTO ALSO SAID THAT HE "ONLY SIN WAS TO WANT TO FORTIFY THE DEFENCES OF PAKISTAN AND THE WHOLE STRIFE BOILED DOWN TO THIS POINT".

4. BHUTTO'S LEAD WAS FOLLOWED BY PREPONDERANCE OF PAK MEDIA. HIS APRIL 28 SPEECH BEFORE PARLIAMENT WAS REPLAYED OVER TELEVISION AND RADIO LAST NIGHT DURING PRIME TIME. HIS RAWALPINDI ADDRESSES HAD FULL COVERAGE IN ALL THE MEDIA, WITH LENGTHY TAPES BROADCAST ON TV. GOVERNMENT OWNED PAKISTAN TIMES OF MAY FIRST LOOKS LIKE A PRIMER IN ANTI-AMERICANISM. LARGE FRONT-PAGE PHOTO SHOW PM, HOLDING LETTER FROM SECRETARY, HARRANGING CROWD IN PINDI. SAMPLING OF FRONTPAGE HEADLINES IS "EXPLOITATION OF NEWSMEN BY CIA" (STORY OF SENATE INVESTIGATION ON THIS SUBJECT), "MASSES WITH BHUTTO, CONSPIRACY CONDEMNED" (IN WHICH NUMEROUS GOP OFFICIALS PARROT BHUTTO'S CHARGES), AND "US OFFER TO HOLD PRIVATE TALKS - NO COMPROMISE ON CONFIDENTIAL

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PRINCIPLES, SAYS BHUTTO".

5. MOST EGREGIOUSLY VENEMOUS ARTICLE WAS COLUMN IN PAKISTAN TIMES BY SENIOR FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT H.K. BURKI ON EDITORIAL PAGE ENTITLED "THE WORLD POLICEMAN AGAIN". IN ARTICLE, BURKI STATES THAT THE PM HAS PRESENTED CONSIDERABLE CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE AGAINST THE US. HE ADDED THAT TWO YEARS AGO AN "UNIMPEACHABLE SOURCE" SAID THAT AMERICAN MONEY WAS BEING DISTRIBUTED IN PAKISTAN TO FUEL ANTI-GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES IN BALUCHISTAN AND THE FRONTIER. ALSO, JUST BEFORE SECRETARY KISSINGER'S VISIT LAST YEAR, THE AMERICAN "CONSUL GENERAL IN PESHAWAR WAS ASKED TO LEAVE BECAUSE HE HAD BEEN UNDULY ACTIVE AMONGST SECESSIONIST ELEMENTS."

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6. ARTICLE CONTINUES THAT THE EMBASSY AND CONSULATES IN LAHORE AND KARACHI ARE THE "PRINCIPLE RUMOR FACTORIES, IN DAILY PRODUCTION". HE ADDS THERE HAVE BEEN "GRUMBLINGS BY THE MINORITY OF NON-CIA DECENT DIPLOMATS WHO HAVE FELT THE US SHOULD NOT DO THIS TO PAKISTAN. BUT THE MAJORITY, INCLUDING SOME OF THE SENIOR-MOST, HAVE MADE NO SECRET OF WHAT THEY WERE DOING. THEY HAVE BEEN ARROGANTLY TELLING THE REST OF THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS QUITE OPENLY THAT THEY WERE GOING TO HAVE THIS TROUBLESOME MAN OUT." TO CEMENT THE CIA LINK WITH THE OPPOSITION, BURKI CLAIMS ASGHAR KHAN HAS SAID HE WOULD GIVE UP THE REPROCESSING PLANT (THIS IS NOT CORRECT), AND NOTES THAT AMBASSADOR RAHIM KHAN AND MINISTER OF EMBASSY IN PARIS IQBAL RIZA HAVE GONE TO THE STATES.

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7. BURKI THEN TAKES ON CARTER ADMINISTRATION AND SAYS THAT IT HAS INHERITED THE CIA OPERATION AND MADE IT ITS

OWN. HE CONTENTS THAT THE NEW CARTER ASSAULT ON THE THIRD WORLD IS UNDER THE CATCHWORD "HUMAN RIGHTS" AND "IF THE PEANUT EVANGELIST WERE REALLY SERIOUS ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS", HE WOULD FIRST CONSIDER THE DIFFICULTIES OF THE AMERICAN INDIANS AND BLACKS. HE ADDS THAT "THE CROWNING INSULT" OFFERED BY THE FRAUD OF "HUMAN RIGHTS" IS THE STRIDENCY OF ITS MORALITY. "A COUNTRY WHOSE GOVERNMENTS HAVE DROPPED NUCLEAR BOMBS ON CITIES IS NOW LECTURING THE WORLD ON "HUMAN RIGHTS."

8. BURKI GOES ON TO SAY THAT THE DAMAGE CAUSED BY THE US CONSPIRACY DURING THE PAST SIX WEEKS IS "FAR HIGHER THAN THE TOTAL US LOANS ADVANCED IN THE PAST DECADE". IN A FINAL BLAST OF YELLOW JOURNALISM, BURKI WRITES THAT THE "CARTER ADMINISTRATION TRAPPED BY ITS OWN MORAL CERTITUDE, COULD IN A FRENZY EVEN DESTROY THE ENTIRE WORLD, BUT IT CANNOT ACT THE GOD ALMIGHTY AND RULE THE ROOST." THE SMALLER NATIONS OF THE WORLD ARE TOO NUMEROUS AND UNMANAGE-ABLE TO BE "MANIPULATED INTO A GLOBAL PATTERN CONCEIVED BY SOME NUT IN WASHINGTON".

9. WATCHING THE PM'S TV PROADCAST OF THE PM SPEAKING IN PINDI YESTERDAY, WE SAW A MAN CONSIDERABLY CHANGED FROM HTHE PAST WEEK. JUST BEFORE MARTIAL LAW WAS IMPOSED IN THREE CITIES, HE WAS HAGGARD, BELEGUERED AND, MOST OBSERVERS THOUGHT, READY TO FALL. THE BHUTTO OF YESTERDAY WAS REIMINSCENT OF THE POLITICIAN HE WAS IN THE EARLY 1970S. CONFIDENT, COCKY, EXUDING CERTITIDUE AND SELF-ASSURANCE, THE PRIME MINISTER OBVIOUSLY BELIEVES HIS POLITICAL FORTUNES ARE ON THE UPSWING. THE OPPOSITION SEEMS WILLING TO COME TO AGREEMENT ON ENDING THE POLITICAL CRISIS. IF NEW ELECTIONS ARE HELD, THE PM WILL GAIN SEVERAL MONTHS MORE MANUEVERING ROOM AND HIS POLITICAL FIGHTING INSTINCTS ARE UNDOUBTEDLY SHARPENED BY THE THOUGHT OF CONFIDENTIAL

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TAKING ON THE PNA AGAIN IN ANOTHER CAMPAIGN, ESPECIALLY ONE IN WHICH THEY ARE ON THE DEFENSIVE AND ARE ACCUSED OF BEING AMERICAN LACKEYS.

10. WE DO NOT THINK THE PM IS ANYWHERE NEAR BEING OUT OF THE WOODS. THE COUNTRY IS STILL SULLEN AND HE STILL NEEDS ACTIVE ARMY SUPPORT TO REMAIN IN POWER. SIGNS OF THE OLD BHUTTO ARE BEGINNING TO REAPPEAR HOWEVER AND THOSE WH WERE COUNTING HIM OUT TWO WEEKS AGO ARE NOW BEGINNING TO TALK ABOUT HOW HE JUST MIGHT MAKE IT THROUGH ONCE AGAIN. THE PM'S BRIGHTER PROSPECTS COINCIDE WITH HIS ANTI-AMERICAN CAMPAIGN, AND THE TIMING - WHETHER FORTUITOUS OR NOT - MUST ENCOURAGE BHUTTO TO THINK THE TURNAROUND IS DUE, IN GOOD MEASURE, TO HIS ALLEGATIONS. WE WOULD ALSO

EXPECT THAT IN CUSTOMARY PAKISTANI FASHION HE WILL BE
STRENGTHENED IN THIS CONVICTION BY THE ENDORSEMENTS OF HIS
PARTY CLAQUES AND THE REPORTS OF HIS INTELLIGENCE AGENCIES.
THIS MEANS THE CHANCES ARE GOOD THE PM BELIEVES HE HAS
FOUND A NEW ISSUE - SIMILAR TO HIS ISLAMIC SOCIALISM OF THE
1970 CAMPAIGN - WHICH CAN AGAIN ENSURE HIS SUPREMACY IN
PAKISTAN. THE DAMAGE IT CAN DO TO US/PAK RELATIONS IS A
SECONDARY CONSIDERATION IN BHUTTO'S MIND.
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Message Attributes

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